

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A torque limiting clutch or coupler is provided for implementation between input and output shafts. A spring biased friction stack assembly establishes a characteristic breakaway torque of the unit. A torque modifying plate is fixed to a pressure plate and, in conjunction with an end plate, defines a ring-like cavity

5 having a bladder therein filled with a fluid. As the torque limiting clutch or coupler begins to rotate, the fluid within the bladder is forced outwardly by centrifugal force and, as the speed increases, the restriction on the fluid radially causes it to begin to move axially, causing the pressure plate to act against the spring bias in one embodiment and to supplement the spring bias in another

10 embodiment, regulating the characteristic breakaway torque as a function of rotational speed.